

STATE OF ALABAMA

Information Technology Standard

Standard 1200-00S1: Domain Naming and Registration

1. INTRODUCTION:

In 2002, the .gov domain was expanded for use by federal departments and programs to include state, county and city governments. Beginning in 2003, the .gov URL was made available to only government entities, thus providing a level of confidence to the public of the validity and association with government. In 2004, the Finance Department in observance of a general trend by other state governments decided to move to the .gov URL with the migration of the new state portal and department websites to alabama.gov. The official website of the State of Alabama (www.alabama.gov) now reflects the primary URL. The dual URL of www.state.al.us and www.alabama.gov will be kept indefinitely.

2. OBJECTIVE:

Establish requirements for the naming and registration of state agency website domains.

3. SCOPE:

These requirements apply to all Executive Branch agencies, boards and commissions that use the primary alabama.gov or secondary state.al.us domain names.

4. REQUIREMENTS:

4.1 DOMAIN REGISTRATION

Policy: ISD on behalf of the Governor's Office is responsible for the registration of all primary .gov, secondary state.al.us, or alabama.gov URL names.

Agencies must use the .gov domain for all official state and agency web site URLs published on the Internet unless approved by the CIO.

Agencies must submit a written request to the Chief Information Officer to establish any Internet URL with the .gov, alabama.gov, or state.al.us domain.

4.2 DOMAIN NAMING CONVENTIONS

Policy: ISD shall develop standard domain naming conventions for agency web sites and email domain names.

Top-Level Domain: The “.gov” domain established by the federal government for all government entities.

Second-Level or Enterprise-Level Domain: Includes “alabama.gov” or “state.al.us” state level domains. Both “alabama.gov” and “state.al.us” are registered through the Government Domain Registration Services to the Information Services Division (ISD).

Third-Level Domain: This level will be appropriate for identifying the departments within Alabama state government. The identification should consist of the department's accepted abbreviation format. For example, "finance.alabama.gov" for the Department of Finance.

Fourth-Level Domain: This level may be used at the discretion of the departments for their department-sponsored programs.

4.3 DOMAIN NAME SYSTEM (DNS) HOST

Policy: ISD shall provide the primary host Domain Name System (DNS) for all state websites.

Agencies registering a domain name other than domain.state.al.us or domain.alabama.gov must use ISD as the primary DNS authority and be registered on the ISD DNS server.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

5.1 POLICY

Information Technology Policy 1200-00: Digital Government

http://isd.alabama.gov/policy/Policy_1200-00_Digital_Government.pdf

5.2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Information Technology Dictionary

http://isd.alabama.gov/policy/IT_Dictionary.pdf

Signed by Art Bess, Assistant Director

6. DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Version	Release Date	Comments
Original	7/21/2008	Replaces Policy 1220-00 and Standard 1220-00S1